THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA DEHARESHWAR SAVANOOR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ninth Five Year Plan will lay emphasis on augmenting and improving the availability of various infrastructural facilities. The Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan has emphasised the need to improve the efficiency and capacity utilisation of the existing infrastructural assets, accelerated completion of on-going projects, initiating new infrastructure investments in the public domain, encouragement for private sector involvement in infrastructure, evolving of appropriate methods of public/private partnership so as to make such projects attractive for the private sector, etc.

Review of state projects

269. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed/reviewed the performance of the projects initiated during 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof in terms of the targets set with State-wise break-up;

(c) the details of the outstanding performance of the states under the programme as also reasons for failure of some states to utilise the funds provided under the programme during 1996-97; and

(d) whether careful review of the programme has reversed certain shortcomings/deficiencies in some states and the aciton proposed during 1997-98 to ensure better performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA DEHARESHWAR SAVANOOR): (a) and (b) The Department of Programme Implementaiton, Ministry of Planning & Programme Implementation monitors the performance of the central sector projects costing Rs. 20 crores and above, being implemented by the public sector undertakings and the Government departments. During 1996-97, 87 new central projects costing Rs. 20 crores and above were taken up for implementation in various states. The status of projects is given in the Project Status Implementation Report for the quarter ending March, 1997. A copy of the Report is available in the parliament library.

(c) and (d) These central projects are implemented and funds for the same are utilized by the Central Public Sector Undertakings and Central Government Departments, not by the State Governments. The list of deficiencies observed is given in the enclosed Statement-I and the measures to remove these deficiencies are given in the enclosed SWtatement-II.

Schemes envisaged under BADP

270. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the objects and nature of schemes envisaged under the Border Area Development Programme (BADP);

(b) the details of the projects executed during Eighth Plan Period in the North-eastern States;

(c) the details of the projects/programmes to be implemented during the Ninth Plan Period alongwith the specific locations, statewise; and

(d) the break-up of allocations made for execution of projects in the region particularly in Meghalaya during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA DEHARESHWAR SAVANOOR): (a) to (d) The main objective of the Border Area Development Programme (BADP) is balanced development of remote, inaccesible areas situated near the border, ensuring effective administration in these